

1  
2  
3  
4  
5 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
6 **DISTRICT OF NEVADA**  
7

8 ROBERT ROYCE BYFORD,

9 Petitioner,

3:11-cv-00112-ECR-RAM

10 vs.

**ORDER**

11 E.K. McDANIEL, *et al.*,

12 Respondents.  
13 \_\_\_\_\_/

14  
15 This action is a petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 by  
16 Robert Royce Byford, a Nevada prisoner under sentence of death. Byford filed a *pro se* habeas  
17 corpus petition (docket #1) on February 15, 2011. Petitioner paid the \$5 filing fee for this action.

18 Despite the fact that he paid the \$5 filing fee, petitioner also filed an Application to Proceed  
19 *in Forma Pauperis* (docket #2). In view of the information provided in that application, regarding  
20 his financial status, the court will grant Byford's motion in part and deny it in part. The court will  
21 not waive payment of the \$5 filing fee, but will grant Byford leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* with  
22 respect to subsequent fees and costs.

23 In addition, Byford filed a motion for appointment of counsel (docket #3). Byford's  
24 application for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* shows that he lacks the resources necessary to  
25 employ counsel for this capital habeas corpus action. Therefore, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3599, and  
26 in the interests of justice, the Federal Public Defender for the District of Nevada (FPD) shall be

1 appointed to represent Byford. If the FPD is unable to represent Byford, due to a conflict of interest  
2 or other reason, then alternate counsel will be located and appointed by the court. Byford's  
3 appointed counsel will represent him in all subsequent proceedings, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3599(e),  
4 unless and until allowed to withdraw.

5 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that petitioner's Application to Proceed *in Forma*  
6 *Pauperis* (docket #2) is **GRANTED IN PART AND DENIED IN PART**. The Application to  
7 Proceed *in Forma Pauperis* is **DENIED** with respect to waiver of payment of the filing fee, but  
8 **GRANTED** with respect to subsequent fees and costs.

9 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that petitioner's Motion for Appointment of Counsel  
10 (docket #3) is **GRANTED**. The Federal Public Defender for the District of Nevada is appointed to  
11 represent petitioner. The Federal Public Defender shall have **30 days** from the date of entry of this  
12 order to undertake representation of petitioner or to indicate to the court its inability to represent  
13 petitioner in these proceedings.

14 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Clerk of the Court shall **SERVE** a copy of this order  
15 on Michael Pescetta, Capital Habeas Division, Office of the Federal Public Defender, 411 East  
16 Bonneville Ave., Ste. 250, Las Vegas, NV 89101.

17 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Clerk of the Court shall **SERVE** the respondents,  
18 by certified mail, with a copy of this order and a copy of the petition for writ of habeas corpus  
19 (docket #1).

20 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that respondents' counsel shall file a notice of appearance of  
21 counsel within **30 days** from the date of entry of this order. Respondents need not respond to the  
22 habeas corpus petition unless and until the court orders otherwise.

23 Dated this 16th day of February 2011.

24   
25 \_\_\_\_\_  
26 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE